

17 September 1984

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director for Intelligence
Associate Deputy Director for Intelligence
Vice Chairman, National Intelligence Council

FROM: Director of Central Intelligence

SUBJECT: National Intelligence Topics

1. Thanks for your note and copy of the 1985 NITs. You may have heard me sound off to the effect that in real life it is the providers of information rather than the consumers who develop the best ideas as to what the consumer needs and should have. This is not to say that the consumers should not be heard from.


2. I would like to see a comprehensive effort, down to the desk level, to have the analysts come up with the important questions in their areas, as well as the sources most important to them in their current work, [redacted] and their suggestions as to what new sources, improved sources, and focus of effort they view as most promising [redacted]

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3. I would also like to see us develop a much more pinpointed, differently prioritized, and probably a more general list of critical information and requirements. For example, if we were to think of where to apply effort right now, we would look for indications of Soviet preparation for action in Europe, South Asia, and Central America, improving warning in Korea, etc. From our standpoint, we should be looking for indications and developments which could be ominous in one way or another. I don't have time right now to go through the NITs to identify the 20-30 things on which I would most like to get an early heads up. I'd like to talk to you about how to do that and then how to get the whole organization working on input, ideas and suggestions, etc.


William J. Casey

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